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Commission on Sustainable Development
Inter-sessional Ad Hoc Working Group on Information for Decision-making and Participation and on International Cooperation for an Enabling Environment
12-16 March 2001
Agenda item 6
Adoption of the report of the Working Group

Draft report

Chapter __. Organizational and other matters

A. Opening and duration of the session

1. The Inter-sessional Ad Hoc Working Group on Information for Decision-making and Participation and on International Cooperation for an Enabling Environment of the Commission on Sustainable Development met in New York from 12 to 16 March 2001, in accordance with Economic and Social Council decision 1999/280 of 29 July 1999. The Working Group held __ meetings (1st-__) and some informal meetings.

2. The session was opened by the Chairman of the Commission on Sustainable Development, Bedřich Moldan (Czech Republic).

3. At the 1st meeting, on 12 March, the Chief of the Policy Integration and Programme Coordination Branch, Division for Sustainable Development, Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, made a presentation.

4. At the same meeting, the representative of Canada made a presentation on the outcome of the International Expert Meeting on Information for Decision-making and Participation held in Aylmer, Quebec, from 25 to 28 September 2000.

5. At the 3rd meeting, on 13 March, the Director of the Division for Sustainable Development made a statement.

B. Election of officers

6. At its 1st meeting, on 12 March, the Working Group elected Alison Drayton (Guyana) and Madina Jarbussynova (Kazakhstan) as Co-Chairpersons by acclamation.

C. Agenda and organization of work

7. At its 1st meeting, on 12 March, the Working Group adopted its provisional agenda and approved its organization of work, as contained in document E/CN.17/ISWG.II/2001/1. The agenda was as follows:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Information for decision-making and participation.

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4. International cooperation for an enabling environment.

5. Other matters.

6. Adoption of the report of the Working Group.

D. Attendance

8. The session was attended by representatives of ___ States members of the Commission on Sustainable Development. Observers for other States Members of the United Nations and for the European Community, and representatives of organizations of the United Nations system and secretariats of treaty bodies as well as observers for intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations also attended.

E. Documentation

9. The Working Group had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on information for decision-making and participation (E/CN.17/2001/4);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on information for decision-making and participation: Commission on Sustainable Development work programme on indicators of sustainable development (E/CN.17/2001/4/Add.1);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on international cooperation for an enabling environment for sustainable development (E/CN.17/2001/5);

(d) Letter dated 17 January 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the report of the International Expert Meeting on Information for Decision-making and Participation, held in Aylmer, Canada, from 25 to 28 September 2000 (E/CN.17/2001/8);

(e) Background paper on the report of the International Expert Meeting on Information for Decision-making and Participation (E/CN.17/BP/2001/1);

(f) Background paper on the report on the aggregation of indicators for sustainable development (E/CN.17/BP.2001/2);

(g) Background paper on indicators of sustainable development: framework and methodologies (E/CN.17/BP/2001/3);

(h) Background paper on information for decision-making: promoting environmental management accounting through government policies and programmes and advancing information for decision-making through electronic networking and corporate reporting (E/CN.17/BP/2001/12).